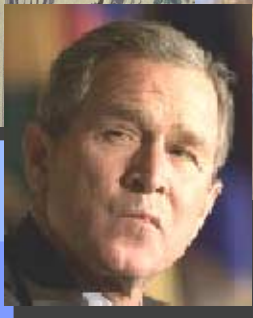
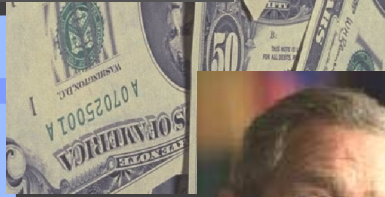
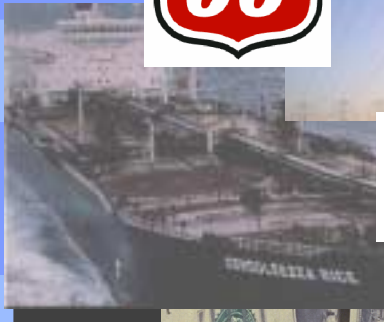


GOP GRAND OIL PARTY

MAY 16, 2001



SPECIAL INTEREST REPORT

Bush's Energy Plan: Yes to Big Oil & Bush's Special Interest Energy Friends, No to Consumers and the Environment

Tomorrow, President Bush is expected to unveil his energy package. While consumers are paying higher gasoline prices at the pump, and Californians suffer from skyrocketing electricity prices and rolling black outs, the Bush Big Oil team has been meeting to write an energy plan for big oil and other energy interests. From all indications, the Bush energy plan that has been developed in secret is pro-drilling, pro-nuclear, anti-consumer, and anti-environment.

The Bush Administration has sadly used the current energy crisis as a means toward enacting a special interest agenda for their big oil friends that undermines the environment and solidifies the position that utilities and the petroleum industry enjoy now where they reap record breaking quarterly profits while people pay record breaking prices at the pump, and face rolling black outs. The Bush Administration has used the energy crisis to justify an unbalanced energy package that says YES to big oil, drilling, and big energy, and NO to consumers and the environment.

It is clear that this energy package is a boon to the already profiting energy industry which bankrolled the Bush campaign. Big oil gave \$3.2 million to the Bush campaign, and \$25.6 million to Republicans overall, and other sectors of the energy industry have been similarly generous. Apparently, payback time to the energy industry has arrived, and it will be consumers and our environment that will pay the price.

This report shows that:

- The Bush energy plan is the energy industry's wish list that leaves consumers and the environment behind.
- Oil and gas and other energy industries, which will profit from this unbalanced energy package bankrolled the Bush campaign with millions to ensure his election, as well as the Republican party.
- The Energy Task force, under the leadership of Vice President Cheney, former Halliburton oil executive, worked in secret and has met extensively with energy industry executives to develop the plan.
- The Administration has rewarded these industries by appointing former energy executives to key posts in the Bush Administration. As Newsweek commented, "[n]ot since the rise of the railroads more than a century ago has a single industry placed so many foot soldiers at the top of a new administration." (*Newsweek*, May 14, 2001)

Bush's Pro-Drilling, Pro-Energy Industry, Anti-Consumer, Anti-Environment Energy Plan

From the leaks regarding the plan, the Bush plan emphasizes drilling and production over a balanced energy plan. Vice President Cheney announced earlier this month that the plan would "aim mainly to increase supply of fossil fuels, rather than limit demand." (*New York Times*, 5/1/01) In that same speech, Cheney said the U.S. needs to build at least 1300 new electric power plants between now and 2020 (more than one a week), must lay at least 38,000 more miles of natural gas pipeline, and he called for a return to nuclear power.

With the arrival of the Bush Administration, "the oil and gas industry is hoping to move forward on its wish list. [Oil and Gas] Companies want to open a small section of Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to drilling for the first time. They also seek a faster permitting process, new pipelines and new refineries, tax incentives, and the end of unilateral sanctions that the industry says hurt U.S. companies and give an edge to competitors." (*National Journal*, 4/7/01)

It appears that they will get their wish list. The Bush energy plan is reportedly pro-drilling and anti-environment as the following provisions illustrate:

- **ANWR** – President Bush is expected to put forward one of big oil's dream scenarios – opening the Arctic Wildlife Refuge to oil drilling. Often called "America's Serengeti," the pristine Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is home to hundreds of animal species. Scientists, environmentalists, and most Americans oppose drilling in the Refuge because it will damage an American treasure, threaten wildlife, and pollute the air and water, while doing next to nothing to address America's energy needs. Now President Bush wants to overturn 30 years of protection for a supply of oil that the United States Geological Survey estimates wouldn't be available for ten years. If the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is opened to oil drilling, experts predict another Prudhoe Bay - a place that averages 320 oil spills a year, has produced 55 contaminated waste sites, and comprises hundreds of miles of infrastructure.
- **Florida Oil Leasing** – Further, the Bush administration has decided to move forward with a planned auction of offshore oil and gas leases in the Gulf of Mexico -- rejecting even an appeal from President Bush's younger brother, Florida Gov. Jeb Bush. "I must consider our nation's energy needs and appropriate management of the American public's natural resources," Secretary of Interior Norton said in a letter to the younger Bush. The governor and Florida's congressional delegation wanted the lease sale canceled because of concerns over the environment.
- **Drilling on Federal Lands** – President Bush has even gone so far as to suggest drilling for oil in national monuments! He told the *Denver Post*: "There are parts of the monument lands where we can explore without affecting the overall environment." (*Denver Post*, 3/15/01)

Green Light for Big Oil. In addition, the President and members of his cabinet have indicated that the Bush energy plan will undercut environmental protections to permit new

oil refineries and pipelines, and recommend review – and potentially lift – economic sanctions against Iraq, Libya, and Iran so that U.S. oil companies can do business there. All of these provisions are a huge boon to the already highly profitable oil and gas industry.

Electric Avenue. For electric utilities, the Bush plan reportedly waives environmental standards, including the Endangered Species Act -- for hydroelectric plants -- and enable FERC to seize private land for constructing electric transmission lines.

Go Nuclear. Further, the plan will rely on incentives for more nuclear power, despite concerns about safety and storage of nuclear waste. Indications are that the Bush plan will gut current licensing procedures for nuclear plants that ensure public input on safety and nuclear waste disposal plans, and provide tax credits for more nuclear plant construction.

Consumers Left Behind. While the Bush plans says YES to the energy industry, it says NO to consumers – despite the fact that consumers are suffering from skyrocketing electricity prices and daily rolling blackouts in California and inflated gas prices throughout the nation. Team Bush refuses to do anything to help out. Even the Administration concedes this point. On May 10, Vice President Cheney said his report offers “little quick relief to Californians living with power blackouts or motorists facing higher gasoline prices. ‘There’s not much we can do in the short term.’” (*USA Today*, 5/11/01)

Instead of taking action to help consumers, Bush has used the energy crisis to justify his skewed, economically risky tax plan. Last week he said “. . . the best way to make sure that people are able to deal with high energy prices is to cut taxes, is to give people more of their own money so they can meet the bills, so they can meet the high energy prices.” (5/11/01 Press Conference) In essence, the President’s answer to this crisis is to pass a tax cut for the wealthy few, and then ask all of the rest of American consumers to pass checks on to his buddies in the Big Oil, Electricity, and Natural Gas Industries.

Despite the pleas of eight Western Governors, the Democratic members of the California Congressional delegation and other Democratic members of Congress, the Bush Administration has failed to act on rate caps for electricity in California or the Western United States. The law directs the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to act against unjustifiably high prices. But President Bush’s chairman of the FERC has failed to take any real steps to bring price stability. This inaction is inexcusable given the fact that the California Independent System Operators (ISO) – the managers of the Western wholesale electricity market – have stated that there are over \$6 billion of potential overcharges for electricity sold in California alone. (*San Diego Tribune*, 4/17/01)

Bush and Cheney claim they don’t want to interfere with the free market economy, but in reality they’re protecting their electric utility buddies in Texas and elsewhere, who are illegally gouging consumers- - companies who have filled their campaign coffers and are now making a killing providing wholesale power to California. For instance, the Bismarck Tribune reports the deregulation of wholesale energy prices “turned California into Fat City for Enron..” (*Bismarck Tribune*, 2/7/01)

The following table shows the revenues, income, and profits of California's six largest non-utility energy generating companies, which supply one-third of California's power. On average, profits more than doubled for all six companies from 1999 to 2000. At both Dynegy and NRG Energy, profits more than tripled.

Table 1: Increase in Operating Revenues, Operating Income, and Profits of Electricity Generators (% change from 1999 to 2000)

Company	Operating Revenues	Operating Income	Net Income (Profit)
Duke	127%	110%	18%
Dynegy	91%	168%	230%
NRG	332%	421%	221%
Mirant	488%	50%	-3%
Reliant	93%	49%	N/A
Williams	64%	195%	N/A

Stuck in Neutral for America's Driving Public. While Californians watch their electric bills go through the roof, motorists across the country are hemorrhaging money as gas prices soar. Over the past two weeks, "[t]he average price of gas nationwide, including all grades and taxes, increased 8.58 cents to an all-time adjusted high of \$1.76 a gallon." (*New York Daily News*, 5/8/01) Some drivers are paying upwards of \$2 a gallon. But Bush is balking at proposing anything to help.

The Bush Administration has failed to persuade OPEC to bring down oil prices. Even though candidate Bush attacked President Clinton for failing to persuade members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to keep prices low and supply high, Bush has done no better. In fact, OPEC nations have decided to limit supply, which tends to keep prices up. During the campaign, Bush said "What I think the president ought to do is he ought to get on the phone with the OPEC cartel and say, 'We expect you to open your spigots!'" (*AP*, 3/20/01) Apparently, Bush can not even meet his own challenge.

Another simple and effective short-term solution to high gas prices is to tap into the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR), but President Bush has rejected calls to release any of the oil reserves. Since 1985, Republican and Democratic presidents alike have released oil from the SPR when conditions called for such action. For instance, during the Gulf War then-President Bush released oil from the SPR not for national security reasons, but to "calm the markets." Most recently President Clinton authorized a SPR release last fall and prices fell in time for the home-heating season, but Congressional Republicans and now President George W. Bush oppose similar action.

Why would Republicans oppose a simple, short-term solution that would give Americans a much needed break while longer-term solutions are implemented? Maybe it's because, once again, they're more concerned about protecting their special interest energy friends

than the American public. After all, high gas prices mean big oil companies are turning in major profits. Take Exxon-Mobil, for example, which reported first quarter 2001 profits of \$5 billion, up 43% from last year. (See **Table 2**)

Table 2

Oil Company Profits Are Soaring

Net Income & Percentage Increase Over Previous Year of
Top 5 Oil Companies on Fortune 500

Company	1999	1 st Quarter 2000	2nd Quarter 2000	3rd Quarter 2000	4th Quarter 2000	1 st Quarter 2001
Exxon-Mobil	\$8.38 billion (-5%)	\$3.35 billion (108%)	\$4.15 billion (123%)	\$4.29 billion (94%)	\$5.22 billion (129%)	\$5.00 billion (43%)
Texaco	\$1.21 billion (36%)	\$602 million (473%)	\$641 million (124%)	\$815 million (80%)	\$545 million (71%)	\$833 million (45%)
Chevron	\$2 .29 billion (18%)	1.1 billion (291%)	\$1 .14 billion (136%)	\$1.65 billion (135%)	\$1.49 billion (88%)	\$1.6 billion (53%)
Conoco	\$782 million (18%)	\$391 million (371%)	\$460 million (205%)	\$523 million (100%)	\$574 million (77%)	\$653 million (64%)
Phillips Petroleum	\$548 million (46%)	\$250 million (257%)	\$439 million (306%)	\$426 million (93%)	\$744 million (197%)	\$490 million (96%)

Source: Public Citizen and press reports.

Further, despite rising energy prices, the Bush budget freezes funding for the LIHEAP program (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program) that helps low-income families pay their heating and cooling bills. Today, fewer than one in three eligible families get LIHEAP assistance. Instead, Bush has callously said that American's should use his proposed tax cut to pay rising energy costs. Of course, 12.2 million low and moderate income families with children get no tax relief under the Bush plan.

Conservative, Not Conservationist. Finally, the Bush plan up to this point seems to ignore conservation as part of a balanced energy plan. Specifically, the Bush budget cuts programs that could help with the current energy problems--renewable energy and energy efficiency standards. The Bush budget slashes funding for energy efficiency programs by \$180 million or by 27%, and slashes funding for renewable energy programs by \$96 million or by 26%. Further, he has already unilaterally rolled back better energy efficiency standards for air conditioners by executive order.

That there is little conservation in the Bush energy plan is not a surprise. Vice President Dick Cheney dismissed conservation as a solution, noting that "Conservation may be a sign of personal virtue, but it is not a sufficient basis for a sound, comprehensive energy policy." (*New York Times*, 5/1/01) Since that statement, the President has attempted to backtrack from that position.

However, it is plain that Bush's plan is unbalanced – favoring drilling and production over conservation and the environment. As *Newsweek* summed it up:

"While the report will recommend an array of what one White House aide advertises as "high-tech, 21st-century conservation ideas," its **core will be a call to find and use new sources of fossil fuels, as well as a renewed commitment to nuclear power.**" (*Newsweek*, May 14, 2001)

Energy Industry Bankrolled the Bush & GOP Campaigns

The fact that the Bush Energy plan says YES to big energy which is already raking in the profits at the expense of American families, and NO to consumers comes as no surprise. That's because he owes his big oil buddies and other energy industry friends some big favors. After all they bankrolled the Bush campaign, in addition to generously underwriting Republican campaigns at the federal level. **(See Table 3)**

According to the Center for Responsive Politics, Bush was by far the top recipient of money from the oil and gas industry receiving \$3.2 million (\$1.8 million in campaign contributions plus inaugural and other contributions) of the \$27 million it gave to Republicans in the 2000 election cycle. That the Bush plan is pay back to his oil and gas friends is a natural outcome of the money trail.

Enron has long been one of Bush's biggest corporate supporters and now Enron's Chief Executive has been appointed to the Bush Energy Advisory Team. The San Francisco Chronicle reports: "(People) have noted the money connection between Bush, a former oil industry executive, and the vast Texas energy industry. Enron's Kenneth Lay, who boasts he can get Bush on the phone whenever he wants, raised more than \$400,000 for the GOP and the Bush campaign." (*San Francisco Chronicle*)

Republican campaigns are also deeply indebted to electric utilities. These utilities bankrolled the Bush campaign to the tune of \$1.3 million, while contributing nearly \$13 million to Republican candidates and party committees in the 2000 election cycle.

During the cycle, the nuclear waste industry gave \$320,100 to Bush and \$1,180,553 to GOP candidates and committees.

Finally, the coal industry which reportedly gets a relaxation of Clean Air standards under the Bush plan gave his campaign more than \$100,000, while filling GOP coffers with \$3.3 million for the 2000 election.

Table 3

Bush's Energy Plan: Payback Time For Big Oil & Energy Industry Contributors

Industry	What they Gave*	What they Got
Oil and Gas	\$3.2M to Bush \$25.6M to Republicans	<p>Permit Oil Drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge</p> <p>Permit Oil Drilling on Federal Lands – National Parks, National Forests, & National Monuments</p> <p>Permit Oil Drilling off the coast of Florida</p> <p>Undercut environmental protections to permit new oil refineries and pipelines</p> <p>Review – and potentially lift – economic sanctions against Iraq, Libya, and Iran so that U.S. oil companies can do business there</p> <p>Lock in place record prices at the pump at the same time they see record profits</p>
Electric Utilities	\$1.3 million to Bush \$12.9 to Republicans	<p>No price caps in Western United States</p> <p>Waive environmental standards, including the Endangered Species Act, for hydroelectric plants</p> <p>Enable FERC to seize private land for constructing electric transmission lines</p>
Nuclear Waste	\$105,000 to Bush** \$1.2 million to Republicans	<p>Gut current licensing procedures for nuclear plants to ensure public input on safety and nuclear waste disposal plans</p> <p>Tax credits for more nuclear plant construction</p>
Coal	\$110, 000 to Bush \$3.3 million to GOP	Permit coal-fired power plants to exceed Clean Air limits.

Source: Center for Responsive Politics

*Bush contributions include contributions to the Bush campaign, Bush Inaugural Committee, and the Recount fund. GOP contributions include contributions to candidates and party committees.

These campaign contributions are not the only financial ties between Bush and the energy industry. Twenty-eight of Bush's Fundraising Pioneers, those raising \$100,000 or more, are connected to the energy industry. (*New York Times*, 6/23/00)

Cheney Energy Task Force Meets in Secret/ Open Door Policy for Energy Industry

As a reward to the big energy contributors, Bush established an energy task force headed by Vice President Cheney --Former CEO of Halliburton, the world's largest oil field services company. Cheney in heading the Bush energy task force, is making decisions that will determine the profits of big oil companies like Halliburton.

Cheney's energy task force has been meeting in secret to develop this energy plan. It has been meeting in secret, despite the fact that throughout 1993 and 1994 Republicans harshly criticized President Clinton's Health Care task force for its lack of disclosure. Members of Congress and the press have been trying to ascertain the members and the nature of its deliberations. In fact, some question whether the task force is violating sunshine laws and/or the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) by holding private meetings with interest groups on federal property and with federal employee participation. It is blatantly clear that there is a deliberate effort to shield its membership and deliberations from public scrutiny. What are they doing? Do they have something to hide?

It may be that the task force is meeting in secret to hide the fact that the Administration has had an open door policy for energy industry representatives. As *Newsweek* has reported:

The Bushies used a secretive, believers-only process reminiscent of another such enterprise: Hillary Rodham Clinton's effort to write a national health-care plan in 1994. ...Still, industry leaders--who dumped \$22.5 million into GOP coffers in the last election enjoyed constant contact with the task force. Cheney met with a group of utility executives at the Edison Electric Institute, whose president, Tom Kuhn, was a leading Bush fund-raiser. No one has enjoyed better access than Enron CEO Ken Lay, who recently had dinner with his good friend the president. The environmental community, meanwhile, got one mass meeting with the staff a month ago (and the promise of another this week with EPA Administrator Christine Todd Whitman). Efforts to meet with Cheney were rebuffed. Cheney himself confirmed he had not met with a single spokesman for the greens. (*Newsweek*, 5/12/01)

According to *National Journal*, "oil and gas industry leaders have been streaming into Washington for talks with Cheney, Lundquist, and congressional leaders. Executives from such industry giants as Chevron Corp., Exxon Mobil Corp., Shell Oil Co., as well as company and trade group lobbyists, held productive sessions with task force officials." (*National Journal*, 4/7/01)

Associated Press reports, "Cheney's time has been reserved for meetings with more select participants such as power wholesaler Enron Corp. and the Edison Electric Institute, both

GOP donors. **(AP, 5/14/01)** Of course, Enron ranked among Bush's top 10 presidential campaign contributors, giving more than \$110,000, and helped sponsor a \$7 million party fund-raiser last month. The Edison Electric Institute gave Republican candidates more than two-thirds of its \$193,000 in contributions last year.

Newsweek described the process as follows:

“Nine days before George W. Bush was inaugurated, energy lobbyists gathered at the American Petroleum Institute's offices in downtown Washington. Their agenda: to write a wish list.many items on that board—and other lists scribbled by other energy lobbyists in other offices around town—found their way into the recommendations that the president will unveil to the nation next week. The API list, in fact, was forwarded to George Bush's transition team, which sent it to the Interior Department. On March 20, Interior sent many of the same ideas to the Energy Task Force that Vice President Dick Cheney had convened on Jan. 29. To close the loop, key leaders from that API meeting have since been appointed to pivotal positions in Bush's administration--among them J. Steven Griles, an energy lobbyist and the new second in command at Interior, and Thomas Sansonetti, an energy lawyer recently named the top environmental cop at the Justice Department. The two, in effect, will help administer policies they helped to write.” **(Newsweek, 5/14/01)**

Bush Administration Gushes with Big Oil & Energy

So why does President Bush insist on drilling in the Arctic and other pro-drilling, anti-environmental energy policy? Why does he pursue anti-consumer, anti-ratepayer budget policies?

Because Bush is a big oil man from big oil country with lots of big oil friends. From the President on down, the West Wing is filled with former big oil executives. President Bush himself was involved in oil ventures in Texas and abroad in the 1980s. Bush ran Arbusto Energy, a firm which after a few years became the Bush Exploration Oil Co.; it had financial difficulties and merged with an oil venture run by two Ohio millionaires. **(National Journal, 4/7/01)** Vice President Cheney, who was the Former CEO of Halliburton, the world's largest oil field services company. He was more successful than the President. In August, 2000, Cheney received \$20.6 million for his sale of Halliburton stock.

But Bush and Cheney are not the only energy industry representatives in the Administration. National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice served on the board of directors for Chevron, a major U.S. oil company for 10 years. In fact, Chevron even named an oil tanker in her honor! During the 1999-2000 election cycle, Chevron gave GOP candidates and committees \$758,588 -- \$224,038 to Republican Congressional candidates. Another cabinet member with strong ties to the oil and gas industry is Don Evans Secretary of Commerce who has spent 25 years at Tom Brown, Inc., a \$1.2 billion Denver-based oil and gas company where he was chairman. Tom Brown Inc. engages in the exploration, acquisition, development, production and marketing of natural gas, natural

gas liquids and crude oil in North America. As CEO, Evans was paid \$669,083 in 2000 and was given a retirement package worth \$5.3 million when he left to become Commerce Secretary. (*Gas Daily*, 2/26/01, *PR Newswire*, 2/22/01; *USA Today*, 1/22/01; www.crp.org) Others like Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham and Interior Secretary Gale Norton, were big oil money recipients when they ran for public office.

At the Subcabinet level, there are even more energy industry alums. Here are just some examples of the big energy officials filling the Bush Administration:

- **Bush Deputy Interior Secretary Was Lobbyist for Oil and Mining Industry.** President Bush has nominated J. Stephen Griles to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior. He has served as vice president of National Environmental Strategies, a lobbying firm representing the National Mining Association and Occidental Petroleum. National Mining Association spokesman John Grasser called Griles “an ally of the industry.” In 1998, National Environmental Strategies in Washington D.C. grossed more than \$1 million dollars representing oil, chemical and mining industries. “He will be a key ally for the oil, gas and coal industries in their pursuit of more access and less protection for public lands. And he’ll do a good job for them,” said David Alberswerth, director of the National Wildlife Federation’s public lands and energy program. (ENN, 3/9/01; www.lcv.org; www.crp.org)
- **Deputy Energy Secretary Nominee Francis Blake Was Vice President for GE Power Systems.** President Bush has appointed Francis Blake as Deputy Energy Secretary. Prior to his appointment, Blake served as GE’s Senior Vice President for Business Development, responsible for all new-business activity and mergers and acquisitions at the company-wide level. In 2000, GE Power had an estimated revenue of \$14 billion, serving commercial and industrial power generation, distributed power, energy management, oil and gas, pipelines, refineries, petrochemical, gas compression, commercial marine power, energy rentals, residential energy and industrial water treatment. During the 1999-2000 election cycle, GE gave \$627,450 to GOP candidates and committees – \$172,000 to GOP committees and \$455,450 to GOP candidates, including \$5000 to Bush. GE gave \$100,000 to the Bush Inaugural.
- **Assistant Secretary of Energy Nominee Vicki Bailey Worked for Cinergy/PSI Energy.** President Bush has nominated Vicki Bailey as Assistant Secretary of Energy for International Affairs and Domestic Policy. Bailey has previously served as an executive with Cinergy/PSI energy.
- **Under Secretary of Commerce Nominee Kathleen Cooper Worked For Exxon.** President Bush has nominated Kathleen Cooper as Under Secretary of Commerce for Economic affairs. Cooper is currently the chief economist and manager of economics at Exxon Mobil Corp. During the 1999-2000 cycle, Exxon-Mobil gave more than \$1 million to GOP candidates and committees. (*Houston Chronicle*, 3/17/01; www.tray.com; www.crp.org)
- **Assistant Attorney General for Environmental and Natural Resources Division Lobbied for Mining Interests.** Thomas Sansonetti is a Wyoming lawyer-lobbyist

for Holland & Hart, a law firm that specializes in helping “oil, gas and mining companies navigate state and federal regulations.” (*Newsweek*, 5/14/01)]

Energy Industry Contributors Play Key Role in Bush Transition

Not only has the industry been rewarded with Administration policy decisions, but energy industry officials have played a key role in the formation of the Bush Administration Energy Department. Out of the 48 members of the Bush Energy Department transition team, 31, or almost two-thirds, worked for the energy industry.

This was clearly a reward for their generosity. Representatives of many big energy and oil firms were put on Bush transition’s Energy Advisory Team, after these firm contributed \$857,232 to the Republican Party and Bush during the campaign. These firms included Enron, Oil and Gas Association; Wolverine Gas and Oil Corporation; Kaiser-Francis Oil Company; Hunt Power, L.P.; Southern California Edison; Phillips Petroleum Company; Peabody Group; Occidental Chemical Corporation; American Gas Corporation; and True Oil Company. (Center for Responsive Politics, www.crp.org)

- **Tom Kuhn, President of Edison Electric, major Bush Donor served on that Energy Transition Team.** Tom Kuhn, Bush’s Yale classmate and president of the Edison Electric Institute, the lobbying arm of the electric-utility industry, served on Bush Energy Department transition team, and personally lobbied top White House officials for the abandonment of Bush’s campaign pledge to regulate carbon dioxide. Kuhn was a Bush Pioneer during the 1999-2000 campaign, raising at least \$100,000 for the Bush campaign. Edison Electric donated \$484,775 in soft money to the Republican Party during the 1999-2000 election cycle, and most recently gave \$20,000 to the RNC on January 25, 2001. (www.tpj.org; www.tray.com; www.leadershipdirectories.org; *The Energy Report*, 2/26/01; *Newsweek*, 3/26/01)
- **Enron’s Chief Executive Ken Lay was appointed By Bush to Energy Advisory Team.** Kenneth W. Lay, head of energy giant Enron and a “Bush Pioneer,” was appointed by Bush to the transition’s Energy Advisory Team. During the 1999-2000 cycle, Lay gave \$275,500 to GOP Committees. Enron is Bush’s largest career patron, having given him at least \$563,000 for his campaigns, including his 1978 House campaign, his two gubernatorial campaigns, and the 2000 presidential campaign. (Center for Responsive Politics, www.crp.org; *Newsweek*, 5/1/00; *Boston Globe*, 10/3/99; *Atlanta Journal and Constitution*, 4/27/00; Center for Public Integrity, *The Buying of the President 2000*; FEC records)

Conclusion

Bush has written an energy plan that was bought and paid for by his big oil buddies who put him in the White House. The energy industry was one of the top campaign contributors to the Bush campaign and they are now beginning to see the rewards for their campaign dollars. During the formation of the energy plan, the energy industry has had special access. The Administration is filled with industry representatives. The outcome is a Bush plan that puts drilling and energy production first, and consumers and the environment last.